

30

wave
LISTEN
TO ME!

HIROAKI SAMURA



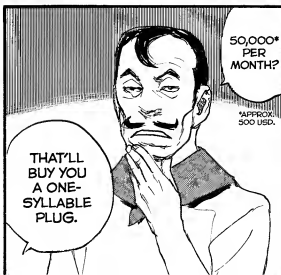
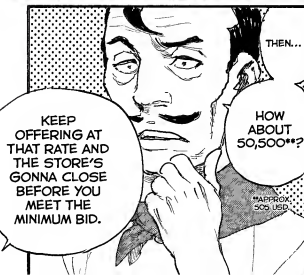
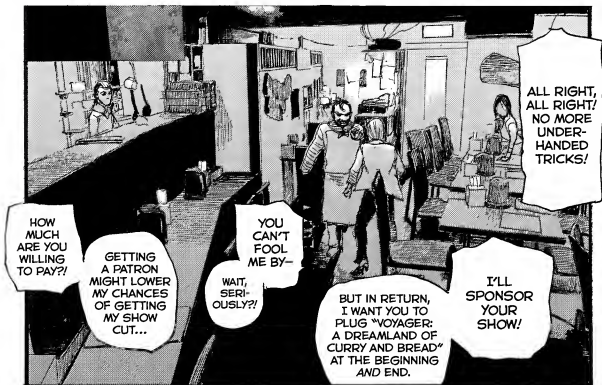
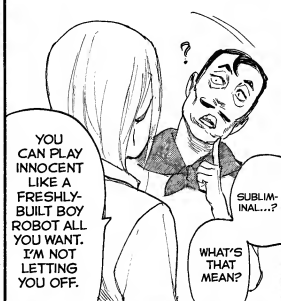
LISTEN TO ME!

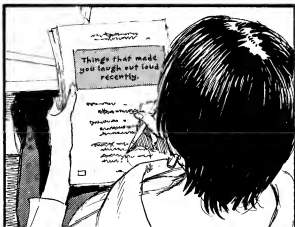
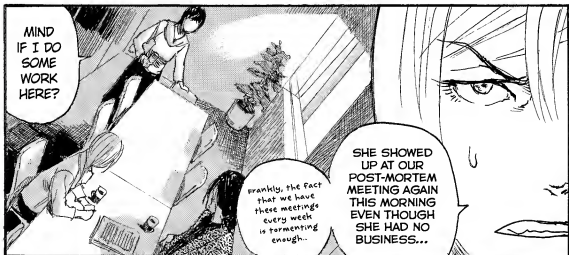
Wave

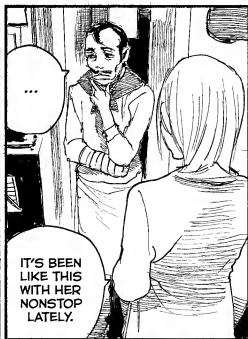
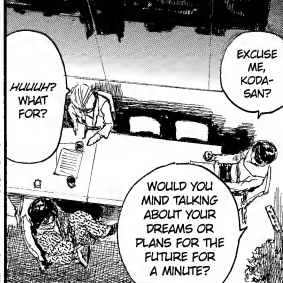
HIROAKI SAMURA

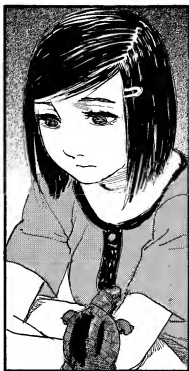
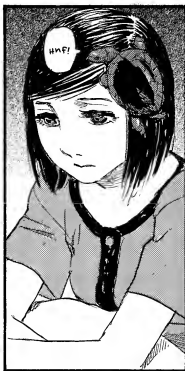


Chapter 28
MY HEART WON'T REACH YOU.











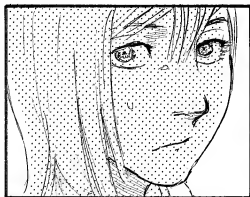
AH...

WELCOME
BACK,
MINARE-
SAN.



M-MIZUHO...

she's
using
the turtles
like doctor
fish...



ER...
THANKS.

WHY DON'T
YOU HOP IN
THE BATH?
I'LL WHIP
SOMETHING
UP.



THIS
MORN-
ING...

...MIZUHO
FOUND
OUT THAT
KUREKO-
SAN MIGHT
BE LEAVING
MOIWAYAMA
RADIO.



EVER
HEARD
OF THE
ARAKAWA
RANZOU
AWARD?

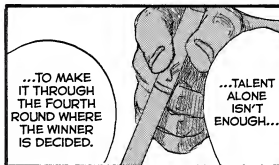
THAT'S
THE LITERARY
AWARD FOR
SUSPENSE
AND MYSTERY
STUFF, RIGHT?

KEIGO NISHINO,
NATSUO KIRINO,
AND JUN IDOBASHI
HAVE ALL GOTTEN
IT BEFORE.



BUT...

THEY TOLD
ME MY NAME
WOULD BE IN THIS
MONTH'S NOVEL
NOUVEAU AS A
FINALIST FOR THE
THIRD ROUND OF
SCREENING.



...TO MAKE
IT THROUGH
THE FOURTH
ROUND WHERE
THE WINNER
IS DECIDED.

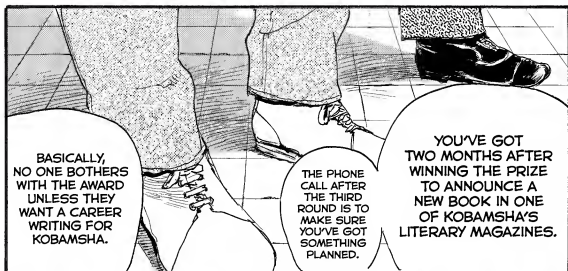
...TALENT
ALONE
ISN'T
ENOUGH...



GOOD
TASTE.

I READ THAT
STUFF A LOT.
I LIKE NOVELS
WHERE MORE
THAN THREE
PEOPLE DIE.

YOU
KNOW
YOUR
STUFF.



BASICALLY,
NO ONE BOTHERS
WITH THE AWARD
UNLESS THEY
WANT A CAREER
WRITING FOR
KOBAMSHA.

THE PHONE
CALL AFTER
THE THIRD
ROUND IS TO
MAKE SURE
YOU'VE GOT
SOMETHING
PLANNED.

YOU'VE GOT
TWO MONTHS AFTER
WINNING THE PRIZE
TO ANNOUNCE A
NEW BOOK IN ONE
OF KOBAMSHA'S
LITERARY MAGAZINES.



BUT EVEN
THOUGH
I'M HERE
EVERY
DAY,

...I'M NOT
WRITING
ANYTHING OF
SIGNIFICANT
QUANTITY OR
QUALITY.

BETWEEN
TWO WEEKLY
SHOWS AND
A ONE-SHOT
SCRIPT...



I'M AT
MRS FOR
OVER 12
HOURS
EVERY
DAY,

I
HATE TO
ADMIT IT,
BUT I'VE
PRETTY
MUCH GOT
MY HANDS
FULL AS
IT IS.

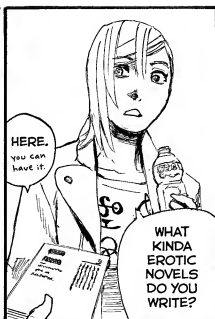
AND IN WHAT
FREE TIME I
HAVE, I WRITE
ABOUT 30,000
CHARACTERS
PER MONTH
BETWEEN TWO
S&M MAGS.



DON'T
SWEAT
IT.

SORRY TO
SAY SO
AFTER YOU
THREW ME
A BONE,
MATO.

IT MIGHT
BE TIME
TO GIVE
UP ON
RADIO.





OKAY,
LET'S GET
TO BED. WE
BOTH HAVE
AN EARLY
DAY TO-
MORROW.

SURE...



HM?

OH...
YEAH.



IT'D BE
GREAT...
IF KUREKO-
SAN WINS,
HUH?



DO YOU
REALLY FEEL
THAT WAY,
MIZUHO?



AFTER
ALL, YOUR
DREAM
IS...

DOESN'T
PART OF
YOU WISH HE
WON'T BE
SELECTED?

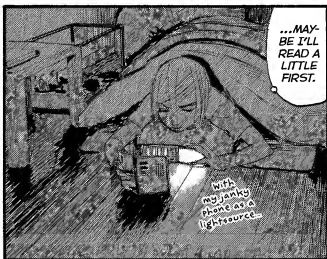
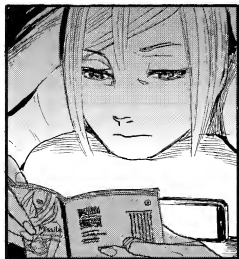
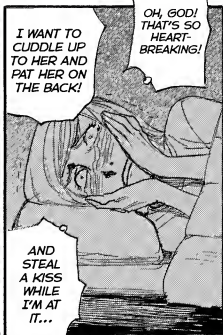


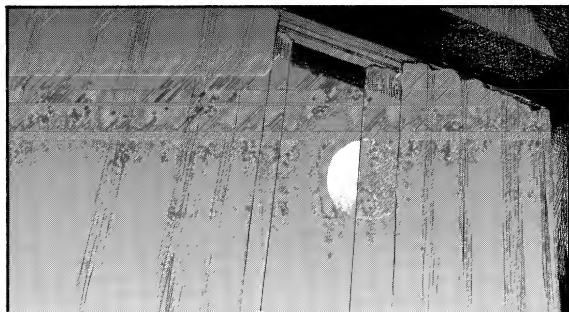
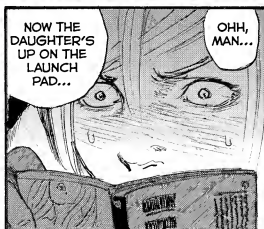
...I'LL
CONVINCE THE
PRODUCER TO
LET ME MANAGE
AN ENTIRE
THREE-HOUR
BLOCK!

AND KATSUMI
KUREKO ONBOARD
AS A SCRIPT-
WRITER, IN THE
STRONGEST
LINEUP I CAN
IMAGINE...

AND
WITH YOU,
MINARE KODA,
AS MY MAIN
DJ,

I'M GOING
TO DO EVERY-
THING I CAN TO
BECOME A CHIEF
DIRECTOR WITHIN
THE NEXT TWO
YEARS!







HUH?
OH...

WHERE'S
TACHIBANA-
SAN?

CHUUYA.



I
HAVEN'T
HEARD
FROM
HER
SINCE...

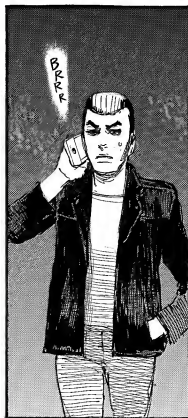
SHE SAID
SHE HAD
SOMETHING
TO DO AND
LEFT THE
STORE
AROUND
10:30.

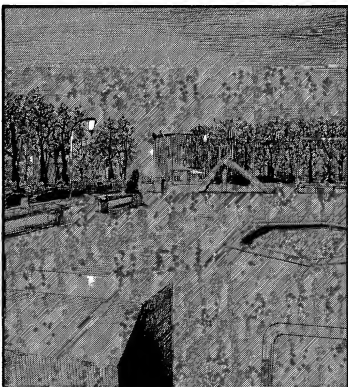
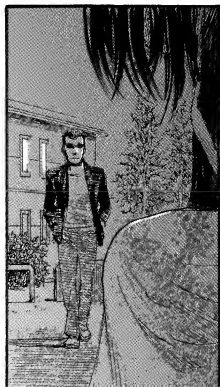


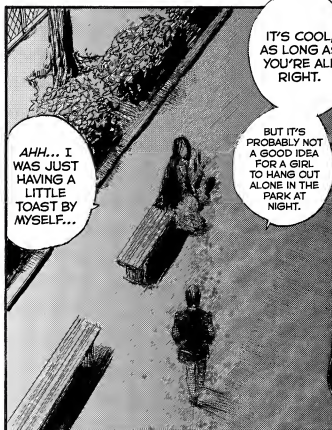
I THINK SHE'LL
BE BACK SOON.
SHE'S GONNA
HAVE A ROUGH
DAY TOMORROW
IF SHE DOESN'T
GET SOME
SLEEP.

WHAT?
IT'S TWO
IN THE
MORNING, YOU
KNOW.









AHH... I
WAS JUST
HAVING A
LITTLE
TOAST BY
MYSELF...

IT'S COOL,
AS LONG AS
YOU'RE ALL
RIGHT.

BUT IT'S
PROBABLY NOT
A GOOD IDEA
FOR A GIRL
TO HANG OUT
ALONE IN THE
PARK AT
NIGHT.

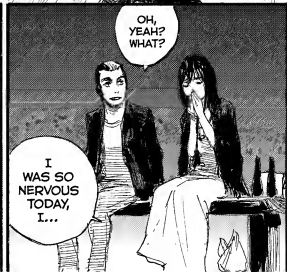
SORRY...

I SHOULD
HAVE AT
LEAST CALLED...



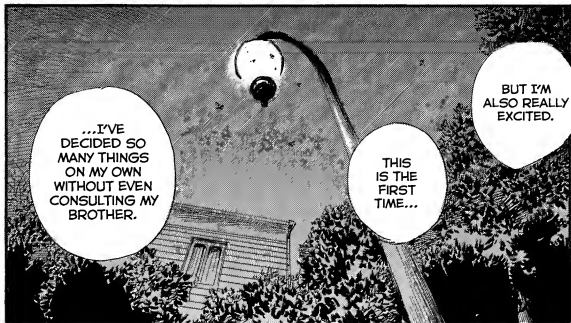
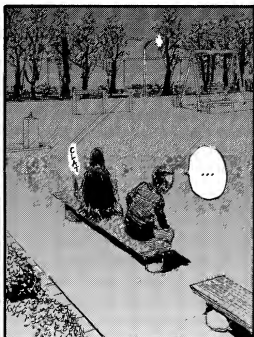
YES!
SOME-
THING
WONDER-
FUL...

A
TOAST TO
WHAT? DID
SOMETHIN'
GOOD HAP-
PEN?



OH,
YEAH?
WHAT?

I
WAS SO
NERVOUS
TODAY,
I...





AND I MIGHT
CAUSE TROUBLE
FOR A LOT OF
PEOPLE.

I MIGHT
EVEN MAKE
ENEMIES.

I MIGHT...
END UP MAKING
A LOT OF WRONG
DECISIONS.



I PROMISE
THAT SOME-
DAY...

...I'LL PAY
YOU BACK
FOR ALL
OF YOUR
KINDNESS.

BUT...
EVEN
IF I'M
WRONG,

I WANT
YOU... TO SEE
MY JOURNEY
THROUGH...
TO THE VERY
END.



WE
MAKE
MANY
MISTAKES
IN OUR
YOUTH,

BUT
THOSE VERY
MISTAKES
ARE ACTS OF
COURTESY TO
OUR LIVES.

